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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 35  
46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004  
INTRODUCED BY  
Rick Miera

A JOINT MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING THAT THE ENLACE IN NEW MEXICO PROGRAM BE INCLUDED IN  
THE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY INPUT BODIES ESTABLISHED BY THE  
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, New Mexico's Latino students and communities  
contribute to the multicultural heritage of the state,  
representing significant promise for the economic future of the  
state with improved educational attainment; and

WHEREAS, data from the public education department, the  
commission on higher education and the national center for  
education statistics illustrate a significant achievement gap  
between Latino students and other student groups in New Mexico  
public schools; and

WHEREAS, this achievement gap results in considerable  
economic and social costs to New Mexico as a result of the high

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1 Latino student dropout rates and low graduation rates that  
2 limit opportunities for future educational participation and  
3 economic success; and

4 WHEREAS, ENLACE in New Mexico, engaging Latino communities  
5 for education, was established with the assistance of a grant  
6 awarded by the W. K. Kellogg foundation as part of a national  
7 initiative to improve the educational participation and  
8 graduation rates of Latino students through enhanced community  
9 involvement; and

10 WHEREAS, ENLACE in New Mexico has created a framework for  
11 success that outlines effective educational methods in classes,  
12 schools and communities where Latino students are succeeding in  
13 their educational endeavors and increasing educational success;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, state law requires the public education  
16 department to collaborate with the commission on higher  
17 education in aligning high school curricula and end-of-course  
18 tests with the placement tests administered by two- and four-  
19 year public institutions of higher education in New Mexico; and

20 WHEREAS, the public education department seeks to close  
21 the achievement gap through a variety of strategies, programs  
22 and activities, many of which include the establishment of  
23 community input entities such as local and statewide task  
24 forces, councils and advisory bodies;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the ENLACE in New Mexico program be  
2 accorded representation on public education department task  
3 forces, councils and advisory groups that are established in  
4 order to participate fully in the public education department's  
5 decision-making and program implementation process and to  
6 contribute to increasing educational attainment and eliminating  
7 the achievement gap among all of New Mexico's students; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education  
9 department report on its inclusion of ENLACE in New Mexico  
10 representatives to the legislative education study committee by  
11 November 1, 2004; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the public education department and the  
14 legislative education study committee for appropriate  
15 distribution.

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